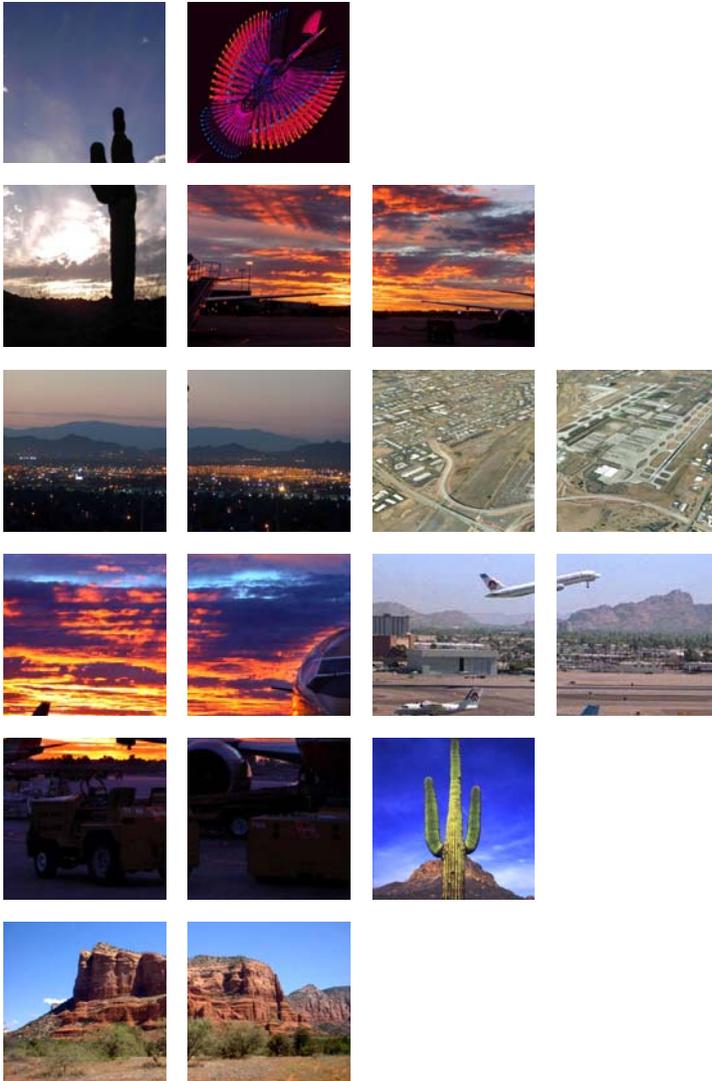


Section 1

Introduction





Section 1 Introduction

The Louis Berger Group, Inc., performed this study, *Feasibility Study and Environmental Review for a Regional Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Training Facility*, under its on-call agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Aeronautics Division. This study is an update to a study by the same name conducted in 1995 for ADOT Aeronautics by another consultant. As such, the previous work has been used to provide the framework for this new study.

There are currently many factors, which affect the financial viability of a successful Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) training facility. The most important factor is the current FAA Part 139 regulatory requirement, which states that all certificated airports must conduct annual live fire training exercises. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has provided financial assistance to build the required facilities to assure all certificated airports have superior facilities upon which to train. The FAA's stated goal was to build 34 facilities throughout the United States with an approximate 500-mile diameter geographic draw area for each facility location.

The sponsor for the facility chosen in the original 1995 study has not developed a regional ARFF training facility as anticipated. ADOT has undertaken a new study in hopes of developing this facility in Arizona. There is strong interest from Arizona's Part 139 certificated airports, the Arizona Airports Association (AzAA), and local fire and public safety departments.

A planning advisory committee (PAC) comprised of airport and fire department personnel from all over the state, as well as other aviation industry experts, was established to provide input to this study at critical points in its development. The PAC contact list can be found as Appendix A. This report is comprised of the following sections and incorporates the input of the PAC:

- Section 1 Introduction;
- Section 2 Regulatory Environment – Facilities and Operations;
- Section 3 Regulatory Environment – Environmental;
- Section 4 Facility Utilization;
- Section 5 Available Technology;
- Section 6 Site Selection;
- Section 7 Layout, Design and Cost Estimate;
- Section 8 Financial Feasibility;
- Section 9 Potential Liabilities; and
- Section 10 Development Recommendations.